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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

GOODNOW, et al.

Serial No: 09/616,283

Attorney Docket No. VRXB-P01-001

Filed: July 14, 2000

Art Unit: 1645

For: SYSTEM FOR DETECTING  
BACTERIA IN BLOOD, BLOOD  
PRODUCTS, AND FLUIDS OF  
TISSUES

Examiner: J. Hines

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below:

April 23, 2004

Date of Signature  
and of Mail Deposit  
Crenea SoldanoCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Sir:

This amendment is being filed in reply to the outstanding Office Action, mailed April 14, 2004, in connection with the above application. Please enter the following amendments:

**Claim amendments** begin on page 2 of this reply.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this reply.

The **conclusion** begins on page 8 of this reply.